

■ In a decade the median household weekly income has risen 10%, to \$340, compared with \$618 for non-Indigenous people. (p.5)

■ There are 1187 distinct Indigenous communities, most of which (85%) are in remote areas. Nearly three-quarters of the communities have 50 or fewer permanent residents. (p.6)

■ Aboriginal people are three times more likely to have a stroke or heart attack than other Australians and are 50% more likely to die from it. (p.17)

■ Indigenous students are half as likely as their non-Indigenous counterparts to continue school to Year 12. (p.1)

## INDIGENOUS STATISTICS

■ Indigenous youth are 23 times more likely to be detained by authorities than non-Indigenous youth. (p.1)

■ Approximately 60% of Indigenous adults were overweight or obese in 2004-05, which is an increase from 1995 and 2001. (p.2.1)

■ Infant mortality rates have improved in recent years (but are still 2-3 times as high as for the total population of infants), and hospitalisation rates for 0-14 year olds decreased for a range of diseases associated with poor environmental health. (p.2)

■ Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders are twice as likely to report a profound disability, with 36% aged 15 or older reporting a disability or long-term health condition in 2002. The Indigenous rate for kidney disease was five times higher than the non-Indigenous rate in 2001. In 2004-05 it was 10 times higher. (p.1)

■ From the early 1970s the Australian Government commenced purchasing privately owned land (especially in rural Australia) for the benefit of Indigenous communities. The Australian and State Governments also began to legislate to return certain Crown land to Indigenous communities and to allow claims to other Crown land. The Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976 is the best known example, resulting in almost 50% of land in the Northern Territory being owned collectively by Indigenous people. (p.2)

★ Indigenous children aged 0-17 years were 6 times as likely to be the subjects of substantiations than other children in 2007-08, and were around 7 times as likely to be on care and protection orders or in out-of-home care at 30 June 2008. (p.4)

An apology from the Australian Government to the Stolen Generations is one important step in achieving the 17-year life expectancy of reconciliation which is to close the Indigenous children. It is important because it removes a barrier to us establishing a more respectful relationship as Indigenous and non-Indigenous fellow Australians. (p.11)

■ The national Indigenous unemployment rate fell from 30% in 1994 to 13% in 2004-05. (p.1)

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The predominant aim of the forced removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families was to absorb or assimilate children with mixed ancestry into the non-Indigenous community. (p.10)

■ The proportion of houses in Indigenous communities in a serious state of disrepair increased from 27% in 2001 to 31% in 2006. Conditions in many remote communities remain basic, with 58% of communities relying on bore water as their main source of drinking water and 32% using community generators as their main power supply. Only 11% of communities have public access to the internet, while 42% are more than 25km from the nearest primary school and three-quarters are more than 25km from the nearest high school. (p.6)